

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 108075
ORIGIN SS-25

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S/S-O: TGMARTIN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

S E C R E T STATE 108075

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: LA, US, FR

SUBJECT: APPROACH TO EMBASSY BY "LAO GOVERNMENT IN EXILE"

REF: PARIS 13827

1. EMBASSY'S RESPONSE TO REPORTED APPROACH BY INTERMEDIAR-
IES FOR A LAO GROUP CALLING THEMSELVES A LAO GOVERNMENT IN
EXILE WAS CORRECT. THE UNITED STATES RECOGNIZES THE GOVERN-
MENT OF THE LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC AND MAINTAINS
DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH IT. RESPONSIBLE AMERICAN OFFI-
CIALS HAVE STATED, BOTH PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY, THAT THE
UNITED STATES DOES NOT REPEAT NOT SUPPORT GUERRILLA ACTIVITY
OR INSURGENCY IN LAOS OR ELSEWHERE IN INDOCHINA. IF REPRE-
SENTATIVES OF GROUP APPROACH YOU AGAIN, YOU SHOULD REITER-
ATE THIS U.S. POSITION.

2. FYI: ALTHOUGH AN INSURGENCY EXISTS IN LAOS, IT DOES

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NOT THREATEN THE OVERTHROW OF THE LAO GOVERNMENT, WHICH IS
BACKED BY ITS CLOSE ALLY THE SRV. WE SEE NO LIKELY CHANGE
IN THAT SITUATION. WE WOULD BE DOING GREAT DISSERVICE TO
LAO WHO HAVE FLED THEIR COUNTRY IF WE IN ANY WAY LED THEM TO
BELIEVE U.S. COULD REVERSE THAT SITUATION. END FYI. VANCE

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NNN

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